

## OFFICIAL REPORTS DESCRIBE BATTLES

### French Repulse Two Violent German Attacks in Vaux- le-Chapelle Wood.

### BRITISH C. ECKING TURKS

### Onslaught of 14,000 on Seven Mile Front East of Port Said Halted.

PARIS, Aug. 5.—The official communiqué issued by the French War Office to-day reads:

On the right bank of the Meuse the enemy showed no activity in the sector of Thiaumont. We have organized the positions conquered immediately west of the road from Thiaumont to Fleury and in the village, the entire southern part of which we hold.

After a violent bombardment, which lasted the entire day, the Germans launched two powerful attacks in Vaux-le-Chapelle wood. The first of these attacks, broken by our fire, was not able to reach our lines. The enemy, who in the course of the second attack had succeeded in penetrating some elements of our trenches, was immediately driven out by a counter attack. Our front remained intact.

The usual cannonade occurred on the east of the front.

Aviation: The German aeroplane which fell near Moranville and was reported in the communiqué of this afternoon was brought down by Sergeant Lenoir. This is the sixth enemy aeroplane accounted for thus far by this pilot.

The afternoon communiqué was as follows:

The night passed in relative quiet on the Somme front. Between the Aves and the Aisne we dispersed several patrols of the enemy and took a number of prisoners.

On the right bank of the Meuse the cannonading last night was violent on the entire sector between Thiaumont and Fleury. The Germans endeavored to force counter attacks to drive us from the work of Thiaumont, which we hold firmly. This fighting lasted from 9 o'clock last night to this morning. It resulted in heavy losses to the enemy, and each one of their endeavors was repulsed without their being able to obtain the slightest advantage.

The fighting continued with equal spirit in the village of Fleury, but it resulted in no appreciable change in the situation.

On the right bank of the river, to the east of Pont-a-Mousson, after a preparatory artillery fire, the Germans delivered upon our positions in the Farc Forest an attack which resulted in failure under the fire of our machine guns.

On the Somme front French scout planes delivered seventeen attacks upon the enemy, in the course of which two German machines were seriously damaged and one was destroyed. Two other German aeroplanes were brought down in the region of Verdun. One fell near Abaucourt and the other not far from Moranville.

Our artillery shelled La Coudrette and Miraumont, causing large explosions in both places. The German positions and three ammunition stores were destroyed. The enemy attempted to seize a crater near Bouches, but was repulsed with heavy losses. There was some artillery activity between Hoge and St. Eloi, where the enemy exploded a small mine, but no movement followed.

The enemy's aircraft showed little enterprise. Eight of their machines scattered when engaged by three of ours.

**British Still Gain in the West.**

LONDON, Aug. 5.—The British official report issued at 10 o'clock to-day reads:

Including the capture of the German trenches reported this morning, we pushed forward our line north and south of Pozieres some 200 to 300 yards on a front of about 3,000 yards during the last two days.

Troops from Australia, Kent, Surrey and Sussex advanced the position west, despite the shell fire, which was especially heavy near the Pozieres-Bapaume road.

The report issued this afternoon says that the British attack last night was completely successful. The German main line system was broken and over 2,000 yards was captured, several hundred prisoners remaining in our hands.

Repeated counter attacks subsequently delivered against the position captured were repulsed with very heavy loss to the enemy.

Except for some mining activity near Bouches and Looz, there was no incident of importance on the remainder of the British front.

A British official announcement referring to operations on the Egyptian front says:

The following report, timed 11:10 P. M. on August 4, has been received from the commander in chief in Egypt:

Since midnight of August 3-4 Turks whose strength is estimated at 14,000 have been attacking our position near Romani, east of Port Said, on a front of seven to eight miles.

The position at dusk on August 4 was that their attacks had made no impression on our fortified position while on the southern flank the fighting also was going in our favor and between 400 and 500 prisoners had been captured there.

Ships of the royal navy rendered valuable assistance from the Bay of Tinn.

Fighting still was in progress when this report was despatched. The temperature during the day reached 100 degrees in the shade.

**Germans Claim British Repulse.**

BERLIN, via London, Aug. 5.—The text of the official German statement issued to-day follows:

Western front: According to supplementary reports these battles north of the Somme which we reported yesterday took place on an extended front and against strong British forces. At the end of the day fighting was still in progress at certain points. British troops advanced against the positions stretching from north of Ovillers to Pourcraux wood were repulsed with heavy losses at certain points after stubborn hand to hand fighting. Near battles developed to-day near Pozieres.

A partial advance by the French south of Maurepas during the afternoon was repulsed.

In the Aisne region the enemy carried out numerous patrol operations, which were everywhere without result. On the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) 468 prisoners, belonging to four different divisions, were captured during our counter attacks yesterday in the Fleury sector.

In the region of the Thiaumont work still fighting again developed. Several German planes were brought

down during an aerial battle in the Somme district.

Eastern front: Army group of Field Marshal von Hindenburg, after the Russian attack on the Devina near Devina were frustrated.

The number of prisoners captured near Rudka-Mirynskaia has grown to 561 men.

On the River Sereth, northwest of Zalosse, repeated enemy attacks were repulsed.

Russian detachments which had penetrated across the Sereth near Ratzys were forced to retreat before our counter attacks. Near Moldystory and Tchistopady the enemy is still making a stand on the southern bank.

Army group of Field Marshal Archduke Karl: During successful Carpathian battles 225 Russians have been taken prisoner up to the present and two machine guns captured.

**Austrians Gain Ground.**

VIENNA, via London, Aug. 5.—The official statement issued to-day by the Austrian headquarters reads:

Archduke Charles Francis Joseph's troops in the Carpathians gained further ground yesterday and captured 325 prisoners and two guns.

Italian Front: The Italians penetrated our positions on several points on Montefalco Ridge, but everywhere were ejected after hand to hand fighting. We captured 230 unwounded prisoners and two machine guns.

**1,200 Taken Prisoners.**

PETROGRAD, via London, Aug. 5.—The official statement from general headquarters issued to-day reads:

The battles on the rivers Graberki and Sereth, south of Brody, are developing in our favor. Our troops are consolidating their position on the right bank of the river, captured two more villages by assault and part of a wood situated southeast of them and a height situated between the two.

Especially fierce fighting occurred in the village of Brody, where it was necessary to drive the enemy out of nearly every street. The enemy made nine counter attacks from the neighboring woods. At these were repulsed, and the enemy suffered heavy losses. Over 1,200 men were taken prisoner; and fresh prisoners continue to arrive.

The text of the official statement issued last night follows:

South of Brody obstinate fighting is proceeding on the River Sereth. The enemy made several counter attacks against our detachments, which he crossed to the right bank in the region of Penaki-Tchistopady. All these counter attacks failed, and our troops consolidated themselves in the captured positions.

In the region of the River Bialy Chermosh, southwest of Kut (in the Carpathians), the enemy launched an attack with forces amounting to nearly a division against our small infantry detachments occupying the mountain passes and forced them a short distance back toward the northeast.

Our detachments again made an advance of several kilometers. A Turkish attack in the region of Kygl was repulsed.

**Italians Extend Gains.**

ROME, Aug. 5.—The text of the Italian official report issued to-day follows:

On Monte Cimone in spite of the enemy's resistance our troops effected occupation north of the summit. During yesterday he launched two violent counter attacks, which were repulsed with heavy losses.

On the Carso our troops made a vigorous attack to the east of Montefalco, taking 145 prisoners, including four officers.

**Turks Capture Machine Guns.**

CONSTANTINOPLE, via London, Aug. 5.—The Turkish War Office statement issued under date of August 4 follows:

Irak Front: One of our volunteer detachments landed on a small island in the Euphrates and captured horses and cattle.

On July 29 in a battle near Bikan, Persia, the Russians were compelled to retreat northward, abandoning 200 dead. We captured three machine guns in good condition with all their appurtenances, a quantity of munitions and rifles and cattle.

Caucasian front: The situation in the Mush and Bitlis sectors is unchanged.

A Russian attack against part of our positions in the sector of Oknot, eighty kilometers (about fifty miles) south of Erzerum, was arrested and repulsed. The situation in other sectors is generally calm.

Russian torpedo boats bombarded Tishob and Karasun on the Black Sea coast west of Trebizond. Several coast towns. Some houses were destroyed and six inhabitants killed or wounded.

Egyptian front: In the vicinity of Katia (thirty miles east of the Suez Canal) continued skirmishes are in progress.

On August 2 a hostile warship off Muhamedia unsuccessfully bombarded for an hour the date woods at Hudelmedjot and Ogratina.

## MISS MORGAN SEES FIGHTING AT VERDUN

### Says Perfect Harmony and Cheerfulness Reign at the French Front.

### CHEERED BY U. S. GIFTS

### Soldiers Impress Visitor With Their Devotion and Comradeship.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Aug. 5.—"From Gen. Nivelle down through all ranks to the humblest 'poilu,' all the French army at Verdun is animated with a sublime devotion, courage and comradeship."

"That is the impression Miss Anne Morgan has brought back with her after a visit to the famous battlefield. She received this Sun's correspondent at the Villa Trianon at Versailles.

"Mrs. Benjamin Lathrop and I went to the front in the interest of the American Fund for French Wounded and to inspect the work of delivery of American gifts to hospitals near the lines and to the men in the trenches. The personal experience of the chief features of the fund's activities.

"Gen. Nivelle conducted us over his sector. He took us to the Verdun citadel and permitted us to visit an observation post near Verdun, wherefrom the vast field operations were visible. We found the organization in the French rear superb. The work shows genius and foresight, representing enormous progress over the earlier period of the war, when saw something of military organization.

"The hospitals we visited even very near the lines were all splendidly organized and administered. The sanitary arrangements were excellent everywhere, striking evidence of French capacity and efficiency.

"Perfect harmony and cheerfulness reigned everywhere, even amid scenes of unimagineable physical horror. I was impressed by the deep spiritual value which our gifts have for individual soldiers. Each soldier who receives such a gift appreciates it as only battle weary heroes can appreciate the spiritual support and good will which parcels from distant and unknown Americans signify.

"The fact that the donors' names and addresses were enclosed, produced touching gratefulness and cheer and served as a real moral aid in supporting the horrors of battle.

"We found the town of Verdun heavily damaged and completely evacuated. We heard and saw heavy firing. American ambulance boys at Verdun are held in golden opinion. Their fine mettle is deeply appreciated.

"To see Verdun was a glorious spectacle—sacrifices made themselves for the world's future, a stimulating lesson in France's immortal heroism."

**U BOAT SINKS SWEDISH SHIP.**

Stockholm, Aug. 5.—The Swedish steamer Commerce, 638 tons, loaded with 250 standards of batteries consigned to England, was sunk yesterday off Soederhamn by a German submarine.

The ship was carrying no contraband and the Swedish government will file a protest in Berlin against this and other recent attacks on Swedish shipping in the Baltic.

**ITALIANS LAUNCH ATTACK.**

Report Capture of 145 Prisoners, Including Four Officers.

ROME, Aug. 5 (via London).—Italian troops yesterday made a vigorous attack on the Austro-Hungarian positions to the east of Montefalco, on the Carso plateau, south of Gorizia, on the Isonzo front, it was officially announced to-day by the Italian War Department.

The Italians took 145 prisoners, including four officers.

**FRANCE UPHOLDS BLOCKADE.**

In Accord With Britain on Treatment of American Commerce.

PARIS, Aug. 5.—Inquiries in the most authoritative quarters concerning the position of the French government respecting the treatment of American commerce with neutral States by the British blockade have been made.

The investigation shows that the restrictive measures against Germany have been taken in mutual accord between France and Great Britain.

## AMERICAN WINS AIR BATTLE.

### Lufberry, Aided by Frenchman, Brings Down Second Aeroplane.

### Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Aug. 5.—Lufberry, a member of the American squadron of aviators in the service of the French army, brought down his second German aeroplane yesterday morning, aided by a French flier from another squadron.

He saw the German machine just before it left its lines, and set out to encounter it. Lufberry dived, taking a position beneath the tail of the German machine, and opened fire. His French companion opened fire from in front and above the German, who fell helpless.

They saw the machine drop inside the German lines. A French observation balloon confirmed their report of the conflict.

An hour before this aerial battle Lufberry and McConnell had attacked another German machine, which they had brought down. Following his favorite maneuver, Lufberry shot at the German plane from behind, and the two were at McConnell fired from above. The German turned the nose of his machine downward and descended 4,000 feet in a few minutes, whereupon he was lost to view.

Bert Hall, adjutant of the American Aviation Corps, encountered a single fighting machine of the enemy's coming toward him yesterday. The two were at the same height, but the sun was at Hall's back, so the German could not see him. Hall waited until the enemy machine was close, then fired a volley of 100 shots. The German plane fluttered, turned back and then went down in uncontrolled glides and swoops. If this exploit is officially confirmed it makes Hall's third victim.

**GERMAN OFFICIALDOM GROWS.**

New Commission Has Power to Inspect Business Records.

THE HAGUE, Aug. 5.—German officialdom, under the economic and social schemes has been vastly increased. One of the latest additions is a commission of officials of which have power to compel tradesmen to produce their books, business records, correspondence, etc., and stores and warehouses must be opened instantly for inspection. Refusal to comply entails severe punishment. On the other hand, the officials are bound to secrecy.

Then there is the "war usury bureau," a new department, under the jurisdiction of the head of the Berlin police. This bureau has a large staff of experts to mete out punishment to food fakers, food adulterers and swindlers of all sorts, including the so-called chain traders and those who charge more than the maximum prices for food, clothing and household necessities.

The authorities have closed the big dry goods stores of Gustav Gode in Berlin and Cologne because they charged a profit of 200 per cent. on their goods. The firm is one of the largest in Germany.

**"FLAGRANT AS LUSITANIA."**

The "Temps" Gives Its Views on Sinking of the Letimbro.

PARIS, Aug. 5.—The Temps, commenting on the sinking of the Italian steamer Letimbro by a submarine and the consequent large loss of life, says:

"The act is as flagrant as that against the Lusitania, the Ancona, the Sussex, the Petroletti, which inspired notes from President Wilson."

The Temps refers to the execution of Capt. Fryatt, the deportation of the population of northern France and Ambassador Gerard's description of the suffering of the prisoners at Ruhleben, and continues:

"Although the universal conscience revolts no neutral government has protested against the atrocities. The impossibility of non-belligerents in the presence of solemn agreements which have been broken and of which they also are signatories, relieves them of all authority as intermediaries for peace between those who respect treaties and those who trample upon them."

**REVENTLOW STORMS AGAIN.**

Wants American Relief Stopped in Occupied Countries.

LONDON, Aug. 5.—Writing in the Times, Reventlow, Count Reventlow, says in an Exchange Telegraph Company despatch from Amsterdam, challenges the German Government to use the crops grown in occupied territories the same as if they were grown in Germany for feeding the German population, thus disposing, he says, of food difficulties.

"This will enable us to kick out the American commission, always unfriendly to Germany and which gives the enemies of the Fatherland much valuable information concerning Germany's position," the despatch quotes the writer as declaring.

"American food controllers are intolerable for Germany," he adds.

## BRITISH FORCE BACK FOE ON MILE FRONT

### Continued from First Page.

Gen. Joffre's headquarters by Deputy Franklin Bouillon, president of the Allied Interparliamentary Union.

"It is a great pleasure for me to meet representatives of American public opinion," said Gen. Joffre, "because it provides an occasion for me to express my appreciation of what Americans have done for France in the present crisis. France will issue from the conflict with her traditional American friendship greatly strengthened because she is not only fighting for an ideal equally dear to both Americans and French, but fighting in a manner worthy of our ancestors who fought with your ancestors in America for the attainment of this ideal."

**Shaping Final Victory.**

"Although our enemies to-day are fighting more bitterly than ever yet with the present unity of action of the Allies the entire world sees and understands clearly that destiny is shaping the final victory for us. A characteristic feature of the present campaign is the unity of action on all fronts, which is bringing ever increasing pressure on the enemy on all sides.

"While it was French sacrifices early in the war which enabled the Allies to prepare for this unity of action, I am proud now to pay public homage to the manner in which our allies to-day are discharging their obligations. Russia, profiting by the time we were able to give through our being first prepared, has made an ever increasing effort, drawing ever more continually upon her inexhaustible resources of men and material until she was able to pour the mass of her army upon the eastern front that has attained the recent glorious achievements.

"At the same time England was enabled to demonstrate the full powers of mobilization and the actual fighting valor she is now fully displaying on the Somme.

"The Italians had a more difficult problem and a more limited sphere of action, but their splendid accomplishments are well known. The newly organized Serbian army in the past week has displayed unbroken fighting valor with which it is ready to resume the campaign."

**See Fee Weakening.**

"Although our enemies are still fighting desperately, yet weaknesses already have appeared. They are now drawing on the last reserves. This information we have from all fronts. Equally important is the fact that the former German plan of quickly transferring reserves to the various fronts is no longer possible because of the steady united action of the Allies on all portions of the German front."

"Victory is now certain. It is not for me to say how long the struggle will last before the final break in the enemy's strength comes, but it is absolutely certain that it is coming.

"The turning point in the war already has been reached. It was the five months of French resistance at Verdun which shattered the German plans and turned the scales definitely. Still, one must not imagine that there is any distinct weakening of the forces still opposing us. We now have two-thirds of the entire German army, nearly 122 divisions, facing us, while the remaining fifty divisions, coupled with the Austrian army, opposes the Russian front, but we are fully equal to the situation.

"I prefer not to speak of the present status of the French army, but would rather have you ascertain that for yourselves. You will find an army that we have built up during two years of the hardest fighting, not only with its spirit and morale absolutely unbroken but greater both in numbers, despite losses, and material than ever before in the war."

"Much blood has been shed and more will yet be shed, but you will find not only the entire army but the entire nation determined to carry the war to a successful close for the reason that we are fighting not only for our personal interests but for the liberty of the entire world. We will not stop until that liberty is assured."

**STRONGER ANTI-SPY LAW TO BE URGED**

Foreign Agents' Efforts to Learn Panama Defence Cause Federal Anxiety.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Activities of persons suspected of being spies employed by foreign Governments to get information regarding the defenses of the Panama Canal have led the Administration to decide to request Congress to supplement the existing laws against the improper acquisition of knowledge of military and naval plans and fortifications.

Representatives of the Department of Justice and the War and Navy departments have been in conference on the subject. It is expected that they will agree upon drastic legislation to be submitted to Congress. The scope of the conference may be extended to cover such attempts as have been common since the beginning of the present war to destroy powder and munition plants.

Several military towers are believed to have undertaken to get information as to the defenses of the Panama Canal. A Japanese power vessel, ostensibly a fishing launch, sought recently to obtain a permit for pearl fishing in the canal waters of Panama Bay and vicinity. The canal authorities have been warned that this craft appeared to have been making surveys of the isthmus. The permit was not granted.

**FILIPINOS SUCCEED TO AMERICAN JOBS**

Retirements and Resignations Open Executive Positions to Many Natives.

MANILA, P. I., July 7.—Some of the biggest shifts in the personnel of the government of the Philippines in recent years are now occurring through resignations or retirements, opening a number of executive positions to native Filipinos, in accordance with the policy of the present Administration.

Harry T. Edwards, director of agriculture, has retired, terminating fifteen years of service for the insular government. He is to be succeeded by Adriano Hernandez, a progressive Filipino, now assistant director of the Bureau of Agriculture and previously governor of Iloilo Province. He is a practical farmer, a city attorney, is to be first assistant director of education—this being the first instance of a Filipino holding an important executive position in the Bureau of Education.

**Governor of Wild Tribes.**

The most notable instance of the Filipinization of the government is the appointment of Joaquin de Luna, former member of the Assembly, as governor of the Mountain Province, inhabited almost entirely by the so-called wild tribes, or the head hunters. They are just emerging from savagery and most of them still lead nomadic lives.

Jose Escaler, who has been a city attorney, is to be first assistant director of education—this being the first instance of a Filipino holding an important executive position in the Bureau of Education.

The post of the deputy collector of customs is to be filled by the appointment of Vicente Adanese, the first Filipino to get an important executive position in the Bureau of Customs.

**Americans Want to Retire.**

It is estimated that of the American government employees entitled to retirement privileges under the recent legislative act, 88 per cent. have made application for retirement.

Retirement is granted to all employees who have served for six years or more, and the purpose of the act was to provide these Americans with the means of gracefully withdrawing from subordinate positions to make place for competent Filipinos, who were to receive but two-thirds of the regular salary of the positions vacated, the remaining third being paid each year for three years to the retiring employees.

Opposing the application, Deputy Attorney General Wilbur W. Chambers contended that the Legislature, jealous of its powers, sometimes gave authority to the Commission to audit and sometimes took it away, in this case giving it exclusively to the Panama-Pacific Exposition Commission, whose audit was binding on the Commission.

**SUIT TO FORCE AUDIT OF WHITMAN'S TRIP**

Mandamus Action Begun for a Review of Accounts by Comptroller Travis.

KINGSTON, N. Y., Aug. 5.—An application for a peremptory writ of mandamus to compel the State Comptroller, Eugene M. Travis, to audit the accounts of the State officials, including Gov. Whitman, who traveled to the Panama-Pacific Exposition last year at the expense of the State, was made here today before Supreme Court Justice H. Brocklyn. The court reserved decision.

Mr. Hinrichs is chairman of a committee of the Young Republican Club of Brooklyn, which has for several months been conducting a fight to compel an accounting of the expenditures of the trip and of the State's expenses for its building and exhibits at the fair, involving in all \$665,000.

Edward H. Wilson of Brooklyn, attorney for Hinrichs, who brought the action as a taxpayer, urged that under the State finance law the Comptroller is made the final auditing power of the State and his duty is not only to examine for mathematical accuracy, but also to investigate the legality of all expenditures of State money, of which an account is kept in his office, as in this case. The State Government, said the attorney, has acted on the theory that the auditing powers for the Comptroller are exceedingly broad, especially with respect to State officials, which policy has been upheld by the Court of Appeals. While he may exercise discretion regarding expenditures of officials, such discretion does not extend, he said, to outside persons, such as wives and families of the State Panama-Pacific Exposition Commissioners, "for whose expenses there is no warrant in law."

In most cases, Mr. Wilson continued, bills were presented by the railroads and hotels and paid by the commission. He told the court that eight Assembly men and one senator visited the exposition at State expense of \$200 each. State Senator Cullen and his family had expenses of \$1,500; Vice-Chairman John Ryle, \$3,000; William A. Huppuch, \$1,000; Comptroller Travis, \$1,000. The trip of Gov. Whitman's party cost \$30,000.

Opposing the application, Deputy Attorney General Wilbur W. Chambers contended that the Legislature, jealous of its powers, sometimes gave authority to the Commission to audit and sometimes took it away, in this case giving it exclusively to the Panama-Pacific Exposition Commission, whose audit was binding on the Commission.

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